

-2-

In the claims:

Claims 1 to 14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (previously added). In combination with a structure upon which work is to be performed, a platform extending along a portion of said structure for supporting persons performing work on the structure portion, said structure having structural members at opposite ends of the structure portion, the platform comprising:

- a) a plurality of cables extending along said structure and in spaced relation to each other and in a plane;
- b) each end of said cables being releasably secured to said structure so that the plane of the cables is at a desired position relative to the structure portion;
- c) a floor comprising a plurality of flooring sections arranged in side-by-side relation and each extending transversely of said cables and resting on said cables, said flooring sections being individually removable from said floor; and
- d) a plurality of assemblies for releasably securing said flooring sections respectively to said cables respectively so that said flooring sections are individually removable from said floor, each of said releasably securing assemblies including a member having a pair of leg portions and a portion connecting said leg portions whereby said leg portions and said connecting portion define a generally U-shaped structure, an opening in said respective flooring section for receiving said U-shaped structure, said opening being sized for receiving both of said leg portions at the same time for translation of said U-shaped structure therethrough, and at least one fastener for securing said member relative to said respective flooring section so that said U-shaped structure defines with said respective flooring section an eyelet in which said respective cable is received,

-3-

whereby the platform may be repeatedly assembled and disassembled and applied to a variety of structures upon which work is to be performed.

Claim 16 (currently amended). A combination according to claim 15 wherein wherein said U-shaped member is J-shaped.

Claim 17 (currently amended). A combination according to claim 15 wherein wherein said U-shaped member comprises a leg portion and a hook-shaped portion extending from an end of said leg portion.

Claim 18 (previously added). A combination according to claim 15 wherein said work structure is a bridge which has a deck, said platform disposed below and extending parallel to said bridge deck.

Claim 19 (previously added). A combination according to claim 15 wherein said flooring sections comprise corrugated elongated rectangular decking panels with corrugations thereof extending transversely of said cables.

Claim 20 (previously added). A combination according to claim 15 further comprising tarpaulin enclosures extending between said platform and said work structure for defining a region between said platform and said work structure which enhances containment of debris.

Claim 21 (previously added). A combination according to claim 15 further comprising a plurality of vertically extending cables each attached at one end thereof to one of said releasably securing assemblies and at the other end thereof to said work

-4-

structure for supporting said cables extending along said work structure intermediate the ends of said cables extending along said work structure.

Claim 22 (previously added). In combination with a structure upon which work is to be performed, a platform extending along a portion of said structure for supporting persons performing work on the structure portion, said structure having structural members at opposite ends of the structure portion, the platform comprising:

- a) a plurality of cables extending along said structure and in spaced relation to each other and in a plane;
- b) each end of said cables being releasably secured to said structure so that the plane of the cables is at a desired position relative to the structure portion;
- c) a floor comprising a plurality of flooring sections arranged in side-by-side relation and each extending transversely of said cables and resting on said cables, said flooring sections being individually removable from said floor; and
- d) a plurality of assemblies for releasably securing said flooring sections respectively to said cables respectively so that said flooring sections are individually removable from said floor, each of said releasably securing assemblies having a hook-shaped portion for receiving one of said cables and means for attaching said hook-shaped portion to one of said flooring sections so that said flooring sections are individually removable from said floor and so that the platform may be repeatedly assembled and disassembled, an opening in said respective flooring section for receiving said hook-shaped portion, said opening being sized for translation of said hook-shaped portion therethrough to receive said one cable, wherein each of said releasably securing assemblies comprises a first

-5-

plate which engages an upper surface of said respective flooring section and from which said hook-shaped portion depends and extends at least partially through said opening, said hook-shaped portion having a threaded free end, and a second plate having an aperture therein for receiving said threaded free end so that a nut can be threaded on said free end to fasten said first and second plates together with said respective cable received in an eyelet defined between said hook-shaped portion and said respective flooring section, whereby the platform may be repeatedly assembled and disassembled and applied to a variety of structures upon which work is to be performed.

Claim 23 (previously added). A combination according to claim 22 wherein said work structure is a bridge which has a deck, said platform disposed below and extending parallel to said bridge deck.

Claim 24 (previously added). A combination according to claim 22 further comprising a plurality of vertically extending cables each attached at one end thereof to one of said horizontally extending cables and at the other end thereof to said structure for supporting said horizontally extending cables intermediate the ends of said horizontally extending cables.

Claim 25 (previously added). A platform comprising:

- a) a plurality of cables which are releasably attached at the ends thereof to a structure;
- b) a floor comprising a plurality of flooring sections arranged in side-by-side relation and each extending transversely of said cables and resting on said cables, said flooring sections being individually removable from said floor; and
- c) a plurality of assemblies for releasably securing said

-6-

flooring sections respectively to said cables respectively so that said flooring sections are individually removable from said floor, each of said releasably securing assemblies including a generally U-shaped member having a pair of leg portions, an opening in said respective flooring section for receiving said U-shaped member, said opening being sized for receiving both of said leg portions at the same time for translation of said U-shaped member therethrough, and at least one fastener for securing said member relative to said respective flooring section so that said U-shaped member defines with said respective flooring section an eyelet in which said respective cable is received, whereby said flooring sections are individually removable from said floor and whereby the platform may be repeatedly assembled and disassembled and applied to a variety of structures.

Claim 26 (currently amended). A combination according to claim 25 wherein said U-shaped member comprises a leg portion and a hook-shaped portion extending from an end of said leg portion.

Claim 27 (previously added). A platform according to claim 25 wherein said U-shaped member is J-shaped.

Claim 28 (previously added). A platform according to claim 25 wherein one of said leg portions is shorter than the other thereof.

Claim 29 (previously added). A platform according to claim 25 wherein said releasably securing assembly further includes a plate connected to said U-shaped member, said plate having a width greater than a width of said opening.

-7-

Claim 30 (previously added). A platform according to claim 25 wherein said releasably securing assembly further includes a first plate connected to one of said legs and a second plate disconnectedly connected to an other of said legs, each of said plates having a width greater than a width of said opening.

Claim 31 (previously added). A combination according to claim 25 wherein said work structure is a bridge which has a deck, said platform disposed below and extending parallel to said bridge deck.

Claim 32 (previously added). A combination according to claim 25 further comprising a plurality of vertically extending cables each attached at one end thereof to one of said horizontally extending cables and at the other end thereof to said structure for supporting said horizontally extending cables intermediate the ends of said horizontally extending cables.

Claim 33 (previously added). In combination with a structure upon which work is to be performed, a platform extending along a portion of said structure for supporting persons performing work on the structure portion, said structure having structural members at opposite ends of the structure portion, the platform comprising:

- a) a plurality of cables extending along said structure and in spaced relation to each other and in a plane;
- b) a compression clamp assembly releasably secured to each of said structural members, said compression clamp assembly including at least one member, and said cables being attached to said compression clamp assembly members at opposite ends of said cables respectively so that the plane of the cables is at a desired position relative to the structure portion;

-8-

c) a floor comprising a plurality of flooring sections arranged in side-by-side relation and each extending transversely of said cables and resting on said cables, said flooring sections being individually removable from said floor; and

d) a plurality of assemblies for releasably securing said flooring sections respectively to said cables respectively so that said flooring sections are individually removable from said floor, each of said releasably securing assemblies comprising a member having a hook-shaped portion, an opening in said respective flooring section for receiving said hook-shaped portion, said opening being sized for translation of said hook-shaped portion therethrough, a first plate which engages an upper surface of said respective flooring section and from which said hook-shaped portion depends and extends at least partially through said opening, said hook-shaped portion having a threaded free end, and a second plate having an aperture therein for receiving said threaded free end so that a nut can be threaded on said free end to fasten said first and second plates together with said respective cable received in an eyelet defined between said hook-shaped portion and said respective flooring section, whereby the platform may be repeatedly assembled and disassembled and applied to a variety of structures upon which work is to be performed.

Claim 34 (previously added). A combination according to claim 33 wherein said work structure is a bridge which has a deck, said platform disposed below and extending parallel to said bridge deck.